Sportsmen

A potpourri of gift ideas for the Virginia nimrod

Almost every family has a sportsman.

In Appomattox County, the rolling hills and bubbling streams provide the setting for rest and recreation for many men, and a surprising number of women, as well.

With a staggering array of clothing and equipment for the outdoor sportsman, however, selecting a gift can be a task when the giver is a non-sportsman.

The two major factors to keep in mind when selecting an article of clothing as a gift for a sportsman are comfort and utility.

For example, just as there are many different types of hunting, there are many types of hunting clothes. The avid dove hunter may want a lighter fabric in camouflage print, while the deer hunter may need heavily insulated garments in earth-brown colors.

The general rule of thumb when selecting clothing for a sportsman -- be he a hunter, a fisherman, a camper or a backpacker -- is that the clothing must be rugged, comfortable (well insulated, cool, or water-resistant depending on the sport and the season in which is it popular), and allow as much freedom of movement as possible.

Since hunting season is upon us in Appomattox, let's run down gift possibilities for the well-dressed hunter, head to toe, inside and out.

Starting at the top, most hunters like hats. It's sporty looking, and also very necessary on cold days, to wear some type of headpiece when venturing forth into the woods after Virginia's game.

Ideally, the hat should be water-resistant and snag-proof, so that the hunter won't lost his hat while crashing through the briars and brambles in pursuit of game.

An added feature for the hubter's cap is ear flaps. But make sure the flaps can be folded up either inside the cap or outside along the side of the cap, as hunting often requires intense use of the ears.

The hunting jacket should be rugged, snag proof, and have ample pocket space for shells, lunch bags, and other assorted "Carry-alongs", as well as a game pouch for small-game hunters.

Likewise, the hunting pants should have ample pocket space, and should be snag-proof. If no other part of the hunter's wardrobe is snagproof, the pants should be, as they come in contact most frequently with briars and othner foliage which can tear clothing.

Boots should be sturdy and insulated. Rubber boots are good for certain types of hunting, particularly where the hunter may be walking near swampy land or water. But rubber boots don't keep the ffet as warm as leather boots.

Leather boots are ideal for upland hunters. There are a variety of good quality boots on the market, available in stores in and around Appomattox County.

Any good quality insulated sock will do for the hunter. You may want to get more than one pair if you are hard pressed for an additional gift idea for Christmas; many hunters wear two or even three pairs of socks when they embark on their early morning forays into the forests.

Insulated underwear is a must. No self-respecting hunter would be caught dead in anything but.

Flannel shirts are most popular among hunters, and any brand which will hold up through two or three seasons of vigorous hunting can be justifiably labled "good". If the sportsman for whom you are choosing gifts does not like flannel shirts, any warm, durable material will suffice. Also, some hunters like to wear sweaters as an added layer of protection against the cold, but few hunters would take a new sweater into the woods after game.

Gloves are generally considered a "must" for hunters, but some hunters do not like to use them as they can interfere with the trigger finger when the hunt's moment of truth arrives. There are several good brands of hunters' gloves on the market which have cut-out "shooting fingers" and there are also brands which have "shooting fingers" made of thin nylon which facilitates firing a gun.

There are numerous other items, generally considered "Frills" which make good gifts for hunters. A good scarf is one example, and, though not an article of clothing, a hand warmer, is another.

At any rate, with so much to choose from in one aspect of hunting, choosing a gift for the sportsman should not be a problem!

'A Crazy Quilt?'

A Crazy Quilt

They do not make them anymore,
For quilts are cheaper at the store,
Than woman's labor, though a wife,
Men think the cheapest thing in life.
But now and then a quilt is spread,
Upon a quaint old walnut bed
A crazy quilt of those old days,
That I am old enough to praise.
Some woman sewed these points and squares,
Into a pattern like life's cares.
Here is a velvet that was strong,
The poplin that she wore so long,
A fragment from her daughter's dress.
Like her, a vanished loneliness;
Old patches of such things as these,
Old garments and old memories.
And what is life? A crazy quilt:
Sorrow and joy, and grace and guilt.
With here and there a square of blue,
From some old happiness we knew;
And so the hand of time will take,
The fragments of our lives and make,
Out of life's remnants as they fall,
A thing of beauty, after all.

Douglas Malloch

Reference: The Romance of the Patchwork Quilt in America

•School Award Jackets

★ ★ ★

•Down Filled Vests & Jackets

GOOD SELECTION NOW IN STOCK

★ ★ ★

ALL YOUR HUNTING NEEDS

SHELLS, CLOTHING, BOOTS, LICENSE, ETC.

TROPHIES, PLAQUES —COMPLETE WITH ENGRAVING IN STOCK

PAIRET'S INC.

136-138-140 NORTH MAIN ST. — FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA

PHONE: 392-3221

YOUR SPORTING GOODS DEALER

SUPERIOR Nursery & Greenhouses

24 HOUR TELEPHONE SERVICE

NEW SHIPMENT OF TREES JUST ARRIVED

FALL IS THE TIME TO PLANT

COMPLETE LANDSCAPE SERVICE

LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS FOR HOMES-SCHOOLS-CHURCHES INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL GROUNDS

SHRUBS-ROSES-SHADE TREES-POTTED PLANTS-FRUIT TREES-POTTERY

MON.-SAT. 8:30—6:00

•Weddings
•Fresh Cut Flowers
•Fresh Centerpieces
•Holiday Decorations
•Memorial Pieces
•Dried Arrangements
•Corsages

Call 352-7624

HWY 26 APPOMATTOX, VA.

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

Cut along dotted line and mail to:
The Times Virginian
P.O. Box 2097
Appomattox, Va. 24522

Yes, I want to give the Times-Virginian as a Christmas gift, 52 weeks a year!
($8 in Appomattox and surrounding counties, $6 for student; all others, $10)

Send the Times-Virginian to:

Name _____
Address _____
City, Zip _____

——Payment enclosed
(Or)
——Bill to:
Name _____
Street _____
City, Zip _____

Cut along dotted line and mail to:
The Times Virginian
P.O. Box 2097
Appomattox, Va. 24522